

# STATE INTERAGENCY COUNCIL (SIAC)

## June Meeting Summary



**Date | time** June 24, 2020 | 10:00 a.m. | **Meeting Location** virtually via Zoom

**Meeting called to order by** Elizabeth Caywood, Deputy Commissioner of Department for Community Based Services & SIAC Vice Chair

## WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS & UPDATES

**Elizabeth Caywood**, Deputy Commissioner, Department for Community Based Services (DCBS) & SIAC Vice Chair, welcomed members/alternates to the meeting. Ms. Caywood provided an update for DCBS and reported effective July 1, DCBS will have a commissioner, Marta Miranda-Straub. Ms. Caywood provided an update on the Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer (P-EBT), a program which provides assistance to households with children eligible for free or reduced-price school meals while schools are closed due to COVID-19. P-EBT deadline for applications have been extended through July 10 [More information is available at <https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dcbs/Documents/pebtfqa.pdf> and <https://education.ky.gov/federal/SCN/Pages/P-EBT-Information.aspx>]. Community Action Agencies across the state have received additional allocations through the CARES (Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security) Act.

**Rachel Bingham**, Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC), reported AOC is getting ready to send announcements about virtual legal trainings, for Guardian ad Litem and Parent Attorneys across the state. Ms. Bingham reported AOC has been continuing their work around Racial and Ethnic Disparities. Ms. Bingham reported they made sure their department has an Anti-Racism philosophy. Ms. Bingham emphasized the need for this to be a top priority for SIAC.

**Christina Weeter**, Kentucky Department of Education (KDE), reported KDE has released some additional information that will be available to schools about the COVID-19 guidance for reopening [see <https://education.ky.gov/comm/Pages/COVID-19-Reopening-Resources.aspx>]. "Guidance on Safety Expectations and Best Practices for Kentucky Schools" is being released this afternoon. Dr. Connie White, DPH, joined KDE Commissioner Kevin Brown on the Superintendents webcast this week to answer questions. KDE also has guidance for Food Services regarding ways students are being fed, either in the classroom, Grab and Go Meals, etc. on the COVID-19 resources webpage. The School Safety and Resiliency Act called for a Trauma Informed Toolkit that is scheduled to be released by July 1. On June 3, KDE released guidance on how districts can facilitate conversations about race-based stress and trauma.

**Vestena Robbins**, Department for Behavioral Health, Developmental & Intellectual Disabilities (DBHDID), reported the annual System of Care Academy was a huge success with over 950 registrants. This was the Department's first virtual conference. Dr. Robbins reported there were attendees from out-of-state, which speaks to the quality and the reach of this conference. Dr. Robbins reported DBHDID is increasing efforts around anti-racism work and behavioral health equities. DBHDID will be releasing a set of commitments around anti-racism. Dr. Robbins reported Rashaad Abdur-Rahman's, Executive Advisor, primary focus is on behavioral health equity. DBHDID is hosting a training for the department's supervisors this week, and there is a Cabinet-wide panel discussion that is being planned. Dr. Robbins reported the System of Care FIVE grant released award letters: Lifeskills was awarded grants for 24 hour mobile crisis, Hi-Fidelity Wraparound, and respite services for children and families; and Uspiritus was awarded grants for intensive in-home services and respite services.

**Judy Theriot**, Department for Medicaid Services (DMS), reported Managed Care Organization (MCO) contracts were awarded at the end of May, and those contracts will begin January 1, 2021. There will be five MCOs: three have current contracts, and two are new to Kentucky. Dr. Theriot reported that there will be one MCO for children in foster care.

**Ivanora Alexander**, Office for Children with Special Health Care Needs (OCSHCN), reported they are continuing telehealth services for the neurology and Autism Spectrum Disorder clinics. Ms. Alexander reported face-to-face services are still on hold at different locations. They are preparing for a safe return and getting ready based on the Return to Work guidance from the Governor. Ms. Alexander reported audiology services are available for curbside, depending on what the service is. Ms. Alexander reported they completed their Needs Assessment and are now developing their State

Action Plan. Ms. Alexander reported they will be incorporating new information from the Cabinet, *Building Back Better*, as well as looking at equity, trauma, resilience, and economic structural support.

**Rhonda Logsdon**, KY-SPIN, Family Organization Representative, reported she has webinar resources to share and will send those to Lea Taylor for email distribution. Ms. Logsdon reported they are getting the webinars closed captioned as soon as possible after the webinar so that they can be accessed by everyone.

**Callie Cartmell**, Youth Representative, reported the Housing Authority has housing vouchers open again, and Community Action has more funds available.

**Melissa Goins**, Family Resource & Youth Services Centers (FRYSC), reminded the Council that FRYSC are active in the community and are aware of churches, private donors, etc. that will help if other resources have been exhausted, so contact the FRYSC if families need assistance. Ms. Goins reported FRYSC is preparing for the annual Victory Over Violence conference, which will be virtual. Ms. Goins reported is a huge conference that typically has 700-800 registrants. This year the focus is on Secondary Traumatic Stress.

**Cora McNabb**, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR), reported that OVR hosted a suicide prevention training yesterday for all supervisors and field staff. Ms. McNabb reported last week 66 staff that had previously been transferred to assist with UI claims were transferred back to VOC Rehab, so they are again fully staffed. Ms. McNabb reported staff continue to be as innovative as possible in providing services virtually.

## BUSINESS ITEMS

- **Review of May Meeting Summary**

**Vestena Robbins** made motion to approve. **Cora McNabb** – second to the motion. Motion carried.

- **Annual Recommendations to the Governor and Legislative Research Commission (LRC)**

**Elizabeth Caywood**, SIAC Vice Chair, informed the Council that it is time to begin working on the Recommendations to Governor and LRC, due annually per KRS. Per SIAC policy, we need the recommendations approved by SIAC in August. Vice Chair Caywood reminded members that Lea Taylor had emailed last year's recommendations, and she also reminded the Standing Committee Chairs that this is one of the Standing Committees' charges. Vice Chair Caywood requested members submit recommendations to Ms. Taylor via email.

- **Regional Interagency Council (RIAC) Funding Opportunity Update from Vanessa Brewer**

**Vanessa Brewer**, RIAC Administrator, reported that as mentioned in April, the Division of Behavioral Health (DBH) released a RIAC/LIAC funding opportunity to support efforts related to the COVID-19 Crisis. Funds for this opportunity were made available to address immediate and emergent needs of families and communities within RIAC/LIAC regions and/or communities. Applications were due May 1, and DBH received 14 applications – 11 were from RIACs and three were from LIACs. After reviewing, 11 RIACs and two LIACs were approved for funding. Ms. Brewer stated the maximum amount allowable was \$5,000, and the majority are receiving the full \$5000. Key areas of those funded include supporting basic needs and mental health supports, targeting those deemed to be in greatest need. Ms. Brewer stated that detailed information per award is listed in last month's RIAC Report. Ms. Brewer stated that in addition, this opportunity has generated a little over \$41,000 in in-kind contributions as well as created various new community partnerships. Ms. Brewer announced that award recipients are required to submit a grant report in the Fall that includes successes, challenges, number of families and/or individuals impacted by the funds, and hopefully some testimonies from those impacted. Ms. Brewer stated this information will be compiled and shared with SIAC.

- **Chair for the Outreach & Promotion Standing Committee**

**Elizabeth Caywood**, SIAC Vice Chair, announced that Missy Brownson Ross had been the Chair for the Outreach & Promotion Standing Committee for two years, but she has stepped down from that role. Vice Chair Caywood thanked Ms. Brownson Ross for filling this role for two years. Vice Chair Caywood asked for a volunteer or nominee to be submitted to Ms. Taylor via email.

- **Standing Committee Meeting Times**

**Rhonda Logsdon**, KY-SPIN, requested that Standing Committees' meeting times change from after SIAC to the hour prior. Ms. Logsdon stated that this would be beneficial because Standing Committees could then meet every month, and SIAC meetings would not be rushed to end for Standing Committee meetings. Ms. Taylor reported that the meeting times for Standing Committees are not mandated in SIAC policies and procedures, so the times can be

changed to whenever is convenient for Chairs, Staff, and attendees. No one opposed. Effective July, Standing Committees will meet at 9:00 a.m. EST.

## SUICIDE PREVENTION IN BIG SANDY

*Big Sandy RIAC Members and Beck Whipple, Suicide Prevention Coordinator at DBHDID, shared a suicide prevention awareness video created by Big Sandy RIAC, Woodsbend Youth Development Center, Breathitt Regional Juvenile Detention Center, Breathitt County Day Treatment and Jackson Group Home. Stephanie Hamilton and her son, Chase Hamilton who was featured in the video, spoke about the significance of the video to them and the desire to share the suicide prevention message with as many as possible. Link to the Suicide Prevention video shared during the meeting: <https://we.tl/t-d2nO8szauN> (Please Note: Contains Sensitive Content)*

## FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

**Elizabeth Caywood**, Deputy Commissioner of Department for Community Based Services & SIAC Vice Chair, requested ideas for future agenda items to be emailed to [Lea.Taylor@ky.gov](mailto:Lea.Taylor@ky.gov).

## PUBLIC COMMENT

**Elizabeth Caywood**, Deputy Commissioner of Department for Community Based Services & SIAC Vice Chair, asked for any public comment. Lea Taylor, SIAC Administrator, reported that in the chat box, Pastor Palmer, Chair of the Racial & Ethnic Disparities Standing Committee reported their Standing Committee met recently to plan a virtual Panel Discussion on July 10th from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. The panel will consist of Lori Dudgeon from AOC, Secretary Eric Friedlander from the Cabinet for Health and Family Services, and Senator Whitney Westerfield. Registration information will be emailed as soon as it is available. Ms. Taylor also read from the chat box that Big Sandy RIAC has a new RIAC Chair, Will McCoy, and welcomed him.

## NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, July 15, 2020 | 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Commissioner-level meeting  
Location: Zoom

## ADJOURNMENT

**Ivy Alexander** made motion to adjourn. **Cora McNabb** – second to the motion.

**Elizabeth Caywood**, Deputy Commissioner of Department for Community Based Services & SIAC Vice Chair, adjourned the meeting.

## STANDING COMMITTEES

Outreach & Promotion and Racial & Ethnic Disparities will not be meeting today. Social & Emotional Health & Well-being and Disparities will be meeting via Zoom immediately after SIAC.

## SUMMARY OF ACTION ITEMS

TASK:	RESPONSIBLE PARTY:
Annual Recommendations to the Governor and Legislative Research Commission (LRC)	Members/Designees as well as Standing Committees – email recommendations to <a href="mailto:Lea.Taylor@ky.gov">Lea.Taylor@ky.gov</a>
Chair for the Outreach & Promotion Standing Committee	Members/Designees – email volunteer or nominee to <a href="mailto:Lea.Taylor@ky.gov">Lea.Taylor@ky.gov</a>

## IN ATTENDANCE

### Members/Designees:

Elizabeth Caywood, DCBS  
Rachel Bingham, AOC  
Denitta Mercier, Parent Representative  
Callie Cartmell, Youth Representative  
Vestena Robbins, DBHDID  
Judy Theriot, DMS

Rhonda Logsdon, KY-SPIN  
Ivy Alexander, OCSHCN  
Cora McNabb, OVR  
Melissa Goins, FRYSC  
Christina Weeter, KDE

Staff: Lea Taylor, SIAC Administrator, DBHDID; Lori Ramage, Administrative Specialist, DBHDID; Vanessa Brewer, RIAC Administrator, DBHDID

### Partial Guest List:

Anne Embry, LifeSkills	Diane Gruen-Kidd, DBHDID	Janice Johnston, DBHDID
Angela Morris, AOC	Christie Penn, DBHDID	Miriam Silman, DBHDID
Shirley Gardstein, Cumberland River RIAC		Whitney Hayse, P&A
Kathy Mason, Bluegrass RIAC	Kathryn Tillett, KDE	Carol Cecil, KPFC
Laura Edwards, DBHDID	Beth Jordan, DBHDID	Clay Barber, DBHDID
Beck Whipple, DBHDID	Brittany Barber, DBHDID	David Hanna
Michelle Niehaus, DBHDID	Shelly Steiner, DBHDID	Joy Varney, DBHDID
Kellie Smith, KY-SPIN	Liz McKune	Jesse Dillow, TAYLRD
Liz Moreland, Bluegrass RIAC	Stephanie Sikes-Jones, DBHDID	Rashaad Abdur-Rahman, DBHDID
D. Sauber	Emily Keely, DPH	Kenny Stewart
Lynette Ponder, DCBS	Michelle Sawyers, AOC	Donnie Ray, Big Sandy RIAC
Allison Galvagni, Aetna	Noreen McHolland, Jefferson RIAC	Will McCoy, Big Sandy RIAC
B. Pickle, Big Sandy RIAC	Connie Lee, Buffalo Trace RIAC	Dominique Clark, AOC
Eboni Blackford, AOC	Edward Palmer	Eliza Monholland, New Vista
Hope Beatty, DBHDID	Ian Sheppard, AOC	Jennifer Wilson
Lindy Montgomery, DCBS	Jessica Beal	Madison Fitzgerald
Maggie Schroeder, DBHDID	Malcom (last name not provided)	Michael Lewis, ECU
Melina Hampton, Big Sandy RIAC	Patti Clark, DBHDID	Phyllis Millspaugh, DBHDID
RNJenga	Shelley King, Four Rivers RIAC	Shellie Mills, CRCC
Stephanie Hamilton	Chase Hamilton	Stephanie Bates, DMS
Stephanie Stone	Tal Curry, Office of Autism	Tony Dillow, Gateway/FIVCO RIAC

## MEETING HANDOUTS

Any handouts referenced in the meeting summary above will be available on the SIAC website at

<http://dbhdid.ky.gov/dbh/siac-summaries.aspx>. Under **Handouts**, use the drop down to select this meeting date.